

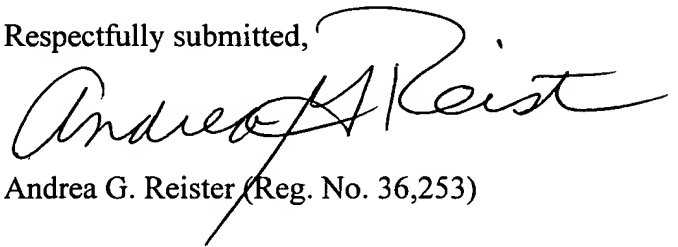
Remarks

The specification has been amended to recite the specific reference to the earlier filed applications in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea G. Reister". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "R".

Andrea G. Reister (Reg. No. 36,253)

Date: August 16, 2000

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